

PROGRAM Huntley-Brinkley Report

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NBC-TV Network

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CITY Washington, D. C.

INTERVIEW WITH GREVILLE WYNNE

CHET HUNTLEY WAS SEEN SEATED IN THE TV STUDIO

HUNTLEY: "Oleg Penkovskiy, a Russian scientist and Army intelligence officer was shot two years ago as a spy for the West. But his private papers were smuggled out of Moscow, and now they are to be published as a book.

"It is said to be full of gossip and hints about Soviet spying, and it may do heavy damage to Soviet relations with other countries.

"Penkovskiy's story came to light in a Moscow court room in May, 1963. Greville Wynne, a British agent, posing as a businessman, was accused of carrying documents out of the Soviet Union, secrets that he had received from Oleg Penkovskiy, an official of the Soviet State Committee for Scientific Coordination. Wynne pleaded guilty and was sentenced to eight years in detention. Penkovskiy also pleaded guilty. He was sentenced to death.

"The trial led to a shake up in Soviet military intelligence, when the head of the service, General Ivan Serov, was forced to resign.

"Last year, the Soviet Union released Greville Wynne, the British agent, in exchange of prisoners.

"Over the weekend NBC's George Montgomery talked to Wynne about how he worked with Penkovskiy and what their spy ring accomplished. In this film the British secret agent tells his story."

A FILM CLIP WAS SEEN

MONTGOMERY: "Could you describe how you worked with him?"

WYNNE: "Well, I can't go in great details as to all the packages that were handled. I certainly brought out an enormous amount of material from time to time. But I think what you might be -- what I consider to be the most important is the first one.

"Up until this time -- I told you earlier on that we were building up together confidence to one another. Alex told me this later. He was unsure about me, as I was unsure about him, to start with. But then gradually we got to know one another, became on Christian name terms. And we discussed the going on in the Soviet Union.

"Now, the visit I made to him when he asked to be put in touch with the intelligence services and stated his willingness to work with us. He asked if I would take a package back to England. He told me he was all about the seriousness of the material and showed me some documents. I realized the great importance of this.

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Now, in view of his position, his Communist Party official card, his military past, his security pass, he was able to do all kinds of things. And he came to the airport with me on this occasion. We went into the washroom and when we found it was empty he handed me several packages -- several papers in a package and asked me to deliver this to my friends in England prior to his visit. I accepted these.

"At the end I realized that he was genuine. To him early in the morning, I said that I wouldn't take them. But he said to me, 'Greville, all right, if you feel this way and don't trust me, I won't press you.' But please prepare for my visit when I come to England.' But, of course, he gave me this chance. I decided to take the package. 'Alex, I trust you, give them to me.'"

MONTGOMERY: "How did Penkovskiy get the intelligence information he gave to the West?"

WYNNE: "Well, you see he had this -- these very high positions, particularly with the intelligence, military intelligence service, and his Communist Party and his military capacity.

"For example, he had to give two senior lectures a year. Although he was working for the scientific committee, he was really a very active organizer of the military intelligence services in the West and particularly with visiting observing Western visitors -- interesting Western visitors to the Russians.

"But on account of him having to prepare these lectures, he had access to all military secrets. There was no question at all -- plans for so-called defense, their aggressive plans, their policies in Iraq, in Eastberg(?), Germany, in Cuba and all the West. They were wide open to Alex. He could go and demand any file. And in his own way, he took pictures and took the documents. I mean it wasn't just handwritten notes. There were photographs signed, seals and signatures on the, we received."

MONTGOMERY: "How valuable was the information Penkovskiy gave the United States and Britain?"

WYNNE: "Of extreme value. The papers themselves -- Penkovskiy's papers will mention some of these. But I would prefer to mention what the Russians have done and how important they regarded it.

"It is well known that over 300 agents were returned from the West. A marshall of the Red Army was dismissed. Serov was dismissed and hundreds of other people have also been dismissed or demoted from their posts. Penkovskiy undoubtedly stopped a major conflict, particularly over Berlin."

HUNTLEY: "There's room to doubt that Wynne and Penkovskiy actually prevented a war, but it remains true that Penkovskiy was the most valuable agent the West has had in years. And publication of the Penkovskiy papers is likely to increase the value of secret agent Oleg Penkovskiy."